E DOCKET NO: 243044US3

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

XE APPLICATION OF

:

SHINJI ASAMI, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: CRAWFORD, GENE O

SERIAL NO: 10/666,240

.

FILED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3651

FOR: BINDING APPARATUS, PAPER PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE

FORMING SYSTEM

## **AMENDMENT**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 21, 2006, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.